

**Jim Doyle**  
Governor

**Roberta Gassman**  
Secretary



**State of Wisconsin**

**Department of Workforce Development**

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

201 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 7946  
Madison, WI 53707-7946  
Telephone: (608) 266-7552  
Fax: (608) 266-1784  
<http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/>  
e-mail: [dwdsec@dwd.state.wi.us](mailto:dwdsec@dwd.state.wi.us)

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Contact: Rose Lynch, 608-266-6753

## **DWD Helps Finance Pathways to Professions Program**

***Program helps promote future professional careers for teen and pre-teen girls***

**Milwaukee** – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced that DWD is partnering with the Women's Council and the Girls Scouts of Milwaukee to encourage pre-teen and teen girls to seek careers in science, technology and the skilled trades through the "Pathways to Professions" program.

The department is providing a grant of \$20,000 to the Wisconsin Women's Council to help fund the "Pathways to Professions" program which provides information to girls about career options, female mentors and role models, and information about career and education resources. DWD's support of the program is targeted at expanding participation and program exposure for the Milwaukee Girl Scout's Urban Outreach initiative which focuses on girls from low-income families or communities.

"Women today make up an essential part of the labor force and that role will continue to grow as our technology and labor force needs evolve," DWD Secretary Roberta Gassman said. "By providing young women with important career information and by encouraging them to seek family-supporting jobs with career paths, we not only increase their personal ability for growth, but we also help our state economically by ensuring a ready and capable workforce for tomorrow and well into the future."

"Pathways to Professions" started earlier this year and will culminate with a career fair in April 2007. For more information, please visit <http://www.womenscouncil.wi.gov/>

- 30 -